THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is focused on the poor. Allocation of foodgrains to States and Union Territories under TPDS are made for 6.52 crore Below Poverty Line (BPL) families which include 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families. This ceiling on the number of BPL families is based on 1993-94 poverty estimates and March 2000 population estimates. For the proposed National Food Security Act, details of the BPL families to be covered in the States and Union Territories are yet to be finalised.

Drip and sprinkler irrigation

*25. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that drip and sprinkler irrigation is rapidly gaining ground in the country;

(b) if so, the number of hectares covered under drip irrigation in the State of West Bengal, district-wise; and

(c) the details of Central subsidy provided to farmers who adopted drip irrigation in the State of West Bengal in the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. More than 15.93 lakh hectares have been covered under drip and sprinkler irrigation under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Micro Irrigation since its inception in January 2006.

(b) An area of 117.18 ha. has been covered under drip irrigation in the State of West Bengal under the Scheme. District-wise details are enclosed as Statement (*see* below).

(c) An amount of Rs.119.33 lakh was provided in 2006-07 as central share of subsidy for the implementation of drip irrigation in the State of West Bengal out of which an amount of only Rs.25.89 lakhs had been utilized upto October, 2009.

Statement

Details of district-wise area covered under drip irrigation in the State of West Bengals on 31.10.2009

Sl.No.	District	Area covered under drip system (ha.)
1	Bankura	26.93
2	Burdwan	21.00
3	Dakshin Dinajpur	1.00
4	Uttar Dinajpur	20.00
5	Jalpaiguri	2.00
6	Malda	18.00
7	Paschim Medinipur	22.00
8	Purba Medinipur	2.00
9	Purulia	3.00
10	South 24-Parganas	1.25
	TOTAL :	117.18